Levin Amendment on a TANF Emergency Contingency Fund

The amendment would provide \$10 billion for an emergency contingency fund to help state TANF programs respond to any increased need for cash assistance, short-term benefits, and subsidized employment after a state meets a threshold for higher and rising unemployment. The cost of the amendment would be offset by a commensurate rise in the corporate tax rate (approximately 1/10th of one percent).

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5861 OFFERED BY MR. LEVIN OF MICHIGAN

After section 19, insert the following:

1	SEC ESTABLISHMENT OF THE EMERGENCY CONTIN-
2	GENCY FUND FOR STATE TEMPORARY AS-
3	SISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAMS.
4	(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 403 (42 U.S.C. 603), as
5	amended by section 19(d) of this Act, is amended by add-
6	ing at the end the following:
7	"(b) EMERGENCY FUND.—
8	"(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in
9	the Treasury of the United States a fund which
10	shall be known as the 'Emergency Contingency
11	Fund for State Temporary Assistance for Needy
12	Families Programs' (in this subsection referred to as
13	the 'Emergency Fund').
14	"(2) Deposits into fund.—
15	"(A) IN GENERAL.—Out of any money in
16	the Treasury of the United States not otherwise
17	appropriated, there are appropriated for fiscal
18	year 2019, \$10,000,000,000 for payment to the
19	Emergency Fund.

1	State for the corresponding quarter in ei-
2	ther of the 2 preceding fiscal years.
3	"(iii) Amount of grant.—Subject to
4	paragraph (5), the amount of the grant to
5	be made to a needy State under this sub-
6	paragraph for a quarter in a fiscal year
7	shall be an amount equal to 80 percent of
8	the amount (if any) by which the total ex-
9	penditures of the State for basic assistance
10	(as defined by the Secretary) in the quar-
11	ter, whether under the State program
12	funded under this part or as qualified
13	State expenditures, exceeds the total ex-
14	penditures of the State for such assistance
15	for the corresponding quarter in either of
16	the 2 preceding fiscal years.
17	"(B) Grant related to increased ex-
18	PENDITURES FOR NON-RECURRENT SHORT
19	TERM BENEFITS.—
20	"(i) IN GENERAL.—For each calendar
21	quarter in fiscal year 2019 through 2023,
22	the Secretary shall make a grant from the
23	Emergency Fund to each needy State
24	that—

1	"(i) In general.—For each calendar
2	quarter in fiscal year 2019 through 2023,
3	the Secretary shall make a grant from the
4	Emergency Fund to each needy State
5	that—
6	"(I) requests a grant under this
7	subparagraph for the quarter; and
8	"(II) meets the requirement of
9	clause (ii) for the quarter.
10	"(ii) Subsidized employment ex-
11	PENDITURE REQUIREMENT.—A needy
12	State meets the requirement of this clause
13	for a quarter in a fiscal year if the total
14	expenditures of the State for subsidized
15	employment in the quarter, whether under
16	the State program funded under this part
17	or as qualified State expenditures, exceeds
18	the total such expenditures of the State in
19	the corresponding quarter in either of the
20	2 preceding fiscal years.
21	"(iii) Amount of grant.—Subject to
22	paragraph (5), the amount of the grant to
23	be made to a needy State under this sub-
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. 1	may use the amount only as authorized by section
2	404.
3	"(7) TIMING OF IMPLEMENTATION.—The Sec-
4	retary shall implement this subsection as quickly as
5	reasonably possible, pursuant to appropriate guid-
6	ance to States.
7	"(8) APPLICATION TO INDIAN TRIBES.—This
8	subsection shall apply to an Indian tribe with an ap-
9	proved tribal family assistance plan under section
10	412 in the same manner as this subsection applies
11	to a needy State.
12	"(9) Definitions.—In this subsection:
13	"(A) AVERAGE MONTHLY ASSISTANCE
14	CASELOAD DEFINED.—The term 'average
15	monthly assistance caseload' means, with re-
16	spect to a State and a quarter, the number of
17	families receiving assistance during the quarter
18	under the State program funded under this
19	part or as qualified State expenditures, subject
20	to adjustment under paragraph (4).
21	"(B) Qualified state expenditures.—
22	The term 'qualified State expenditures' has the
23	meaning given the term in section 409(a)(7)